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February 18, 1914.

RECEIVED
FEB 19 1914
Mr. Speer
Rev. R. E. Speer, D.D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Speer:-

The request for material of a biographical character regarding Dr. Capen, from your office, has just arrived. I am sending you herewith galley proof of our next Missionary Herald containing all that we are printing with reference to Dr. Capen; also a letter-press copy of an article that I have recently sent to the Missionary Review of the World, the first two pages of which contain definite biographical material. You will probably not care for the rest of the article, although it may be suggestive. I am also taking the liberty of enclosing a copy of a letter that has just arrived from Dr. Capen, written on the way from Canton to Hong Kong, and just before he started north to Foochow, and from there to Shanghai. This is the latest from him. This is a characteristic letter.

May I ask that you will kindly return the letter-press copy of the article. The rest of the material need not be returned.

very faithfully yours,

JLB/E
Enclosures.

S. S. "Heng Shau" Jan. 12, 1914
On the way from Canton to Hong Kong.

My dear Dr. Barton:-

I mailed a letter last week to Dr. Patton after our arrival at Hong Kong so you know of our safe arrival. Severe winds delayed us a day and the last day was a rough one. Mr. Johnson met us and we went Friday night to Hong Kong where Mr. Nelson met us Saturday A.M. I say we, which means Dr. Strong, Misses Bodman and Bridgman and the three Capens. We have had a very busy but delightful time in Canton. As you had requested, Mr. Nelson had already arranged through the American Consul that Dr. Strong, Mr. Nelson and myself should meet the Civil Governor of Kwangtung. It was arranged for eleven o'clock, we were a little ahead of time but he was already for us. It was one of the most interesting experiences I ever had. At the entrance to the yamen the soldiers were on guard and we passed along from our room to another, soldiers posted at different points, until way in the interior we were finally ushered into his private room. We passed by the shattered walls of that part of the yamen blown up by the bomb in the rebellion two years ago and it has not yet been rebuilt. He met us very graciously without any fuss, sat us down to a table with light refreshments upon it and the ever present cup of tea, and we had our talk. I spoke to Mr. Nelson in English. Mr. Nelson in Cantonese spoke to the official interpreter in Mandarin and he in turn to the governor, that double interpretation took a little more time but he was in no haste apparently and we were not hurried in any way. He is a fine specimen of a Chinaman, tall, with an intelligent face, most expressive and it lights up as he understands what you are saying. He is in the prime of life and reminds me in his dignity of Sir Chentung. We spoke of the growing

affection of America for China, of our missionary work, etc.

Then I spoke to him of my relation to the "World Peace Foundation" and of the interest in America in Arbitration, etc. He was alert and up to date. Before I had a chance to introduce the subject of the indemnity he alluded to it, saying for substance that America had shown her good will with regard to it. China did not ask for it, but America offered it, which gave China the chance to use it as she did. When I spoke of Arbitration, etc. he at once asked for substance "Is Pres. Wilson interested and a believer in it?" I told him of my interview with Mr. Taft and of his earnestness about it and that I was glad to say that I believed Pres. Wilson was equally in earnest in the matter. This seemed to please him very much. He seemed more than glad that we called and showed his great courtesy by insisting in walking with us through different rooms away out to the entrance. We tried to dissuade him and shook hands but he kept on so we had to say good-bye over again. It is foolish to judge too much of character by our interview but he seemed to us all to be a statesman of broad mind who was fully posted on current events. He is popular here and trusted by the people. Certainly this Province with 30,000,000 people needs in this time of unrest just such a leader as he seems to be. I thought I would write of this and you can make such use of it as you all think best either in the Missionary Herald or Congregationalist or you could tell Mr. Mead about it if that is best and he could use it in the daily papers if you think there is any value in it. I am sure the more of such interviews we can have the better, for it does help to bind two great nations together.

In the afternoon I went with Mr. Nelson over the river and called on Dr. Boye of the Pres. Theological School. He is very poor health and it seems as though his work was nearly over. In the even-
in

ing the church gave us a reception. The building was prettily decorated, there were addresses of welcome, etc. to which Dr. Strong, Miss Bodman and I responded. There were light refreshments after that.

Sunday morning I spoke at the service instead of the usual sermon. At six o'clock they asked me to speak at a meeting of all the missionaries of the different denominations in the hall connected with the old Dr. Peter Parker Hospital. The room was crowded and it was an inspiring audience to talk to. I took as a theme, "Hospital Signs" giving some account of what we saw in India so encouraging and also of the L. M. M. Two or three thought it wise that I should tell of the latter. I think they have this interdenominational missionary meeting every Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall and Miss Hall went from Hong Kong directly to Shanghai on the "Prince Ludwig" so they see nothing of the work in Southern and Middle China. I do not think they are very strong and have to be careful.

This morning at eight o'clock went to the girls' school opening exercises, at nine o'clock we had an informal conference with our missionaries and at twelve o'clock we went to the Canton Christian College where we spent several hours.

It seems to Dr. Strong and myself that we must try to do something more for this work here; we will hope to talk it over when we get home.

With love to all,

As ever,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Samuel B. Capen.